

Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)
Required Information and Evaluation Criteria for Projects Nominated for CIAP
Funding

Information required for all CIAP project nomination submittals:

1. Project Title: *Evaluation of sand resources off Terrebonne Bay/Basin*
2. Entity/Individual nominating the project: *Louisiana Department Of Natural Resources/Syed M. Khalil*
3. Contact Information (Name, Address, Telephone, Email): *Syed M. Khalil, OCRM, Coastal Engineering Division, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Baton Rouge, LA 70804*
4. Total CIAP Funds Requested: *\$1,600,000*
5. Infrastructure Funds Proposed: *N/A*
6. Description and Location of Project: *Offshore Terrebonne Bay (See Attachment I)*
7. Project Type (from list below of authorized CIAP fund uses): *No. 1*
8. Project Justification: *Following the globally accepted "Soft Option" of emplacement of sand as mitigative-tool, coastal restoration in Louisiana has placed sand on various barrier islands in an effort to save its deteriorating coast. Obviously the importance of emplacement of sand for coastal restoration in Louisiana has been established without doubt. Engineering templates (width, height, and re-vegetation) for gulf-side beach nourishment have been and are undergoing critical review and modification as the Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) funded projects evolve. However, identification of compatible sand resources to implement these projects is an on-going challenge. Most of Louisiana's shorelines do not have, in their vicinity, suitable sand resource of sufficient size and quality to be used in restoration efforts. Offshore sand deposit in Ship Shoal is being explored as a resource for the Isles Dernieres restoration. Sand deposits of South Pelto Blocks 12 & 13 (which are eastern extension of Ship Shoal) have been explored for restoration of Caminada Headlands (LCA) and are about 35 miles. Obviously dredging and transporting sand for this far-distance would be expensive. Moreover the exploration for offshore sand deposits has been conventionally confined in general to the eastern part of Coastal Louisiana especially the Barataria Basin. As a part of Coast 2050 Study, area off Barataria Basin was explored for sand. Not much information is available in areas off Terrebonne Basin west of Grand Isles. Geophysical surveys have been conducted in few areas but mostly on very widely spaced tracklines which does not shed much light on the possibilities or otherwise of any sand deposit. Thus a systematic exploration for sand in areas off Terrebonne Basin will not only help mitigate quite a few coastal restoration projects in immediate future viz. Caminada Headland Restoration (LCA), West Belle Pass (PPL16), East Timablier Resoration (Energy Bill) but will also be useful for future nourishment and subsequent restorations. Needless to emphasize that the proposed investigation will accelerate implementation of*

future shoreline restoration by identifying sand sources on the feasibility level and allowing engineering level investigation to proceed immediately saving substantial time. The present intent is to investigate the offshore area between Grand Isles and Timbalier Island by running about 900 line miles (at 1500 feet spacing) of geophysical survey collecting bathymetric, seismic, magnetic, and side scan sonar data. After the analyses of the geophysical data potential sand targets will be further probed by about 100 vibracores penetrating to about 20 feet in the seabed.

9. Project cost share (Types and amounts of non-CIAP funds proposed, if any): *Survey vessel R/V Coastal Profiler custom-built recently by the State will be used for the survey. This boat is fitted with latest state-of-the-art geophysical equipment. All these are housed at Coastal Studies Institute of Louisiana State University. Substantial savings is anticipated in using this survey vessel along with the equipments.*

Types of Projects authorized by the CIAP legislation:

1. Conservation, restoration and protection of coastal area, including wetland.
2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources.
3. Planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with this section
4. Implementation of a federally approve marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
5. Mitigation of the impacts of OCS activities through funding of onshore infrastructure projects and public service needs.

Not more than 23 percent of the CIAP funds received by the State or parishes for any fiscal year can be used for the purposes described in items 3 and 5.

Criteria to be used to Evaluate Proposed Coastal Restoration and Conservation Projects

1. Is the proposed project free of issues that may impact timely implementation of the project features?
2. Is the proposed project linked to a regional strategy for maintaining established landscape features critical to a sustainable ecosystem structure and function?
3. Does the proposed project protect health and safety or infrastructure of national, state, regional or local significance?
4. How cost effective is the proposed project?
5. What is the certainty of benefits resulting from implementation of the proposed project?
6. Does the proposed project address an area of critical conservation/restoration need or a high land loss area?
7. How sustainable are the benefits of the proposed project?

Please note that the project nomination deadline is March 8, 2006.

Project nominations can be mailed to:

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Engineering Division
P. O. Box 44027
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4027
ATTN: Greg Grandy

Project nominations can be delivered to:

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Restoration Division
617 North 3rd Street, 10th Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4027
ATTN: Will Norman

Project nominations can be emailed to:

CIAP@la.gov

Please visit the CIAP website for additional information. The website will be updated as the Plan progresses:

<http://dnr.louisiana.gov/crm/ciap/ciap.asp>